GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4978
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2007
FAKE LPG CYLINDERS
Athawale Shri Ramdas

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that fake LPG cylinders are in circulation in the country on a large scale ;

(b) if so, the number of such cases reported particularly in Delhi during the last one year ; and (

(c) the concrete steps taken or being taken to check circulation of fake LPG cylinders ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a) & (b) : Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have not reported instances of large scale circulation of fake LPG cylinders in the country. However, there have been some instances when spurious cylinders were detected by the OMCs during the last year. OMCs have detected 6 numbers of spurious cylinders in Delhi during 2006-07.

(c) : OMCs are procuring LPG cylinders from cylinder manufacturers who are approved by the Oil Industry Technical Committee (OITC) and have valid manufacturing licences from the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) and the Chief Controller of Explosives (CCOE). Strict control is exercised by BIS over the manufacturing process. LPG cylinders procured by OMCs meet the required quality standards.

LPG cylinders received from distributors/transporters at the bottling plants are mandatorily checked for quality and genuineness to avoid the entry of fake and outlived cylinders in circulation. On detection of sub-standard / spurious cylinders, these are confiscated and thereafter de-shaped / crushed to prevent their re-entry into circulation.

Apart from the legal action which could be taken against any supplier of spurious LPG equipment, in case any distributor is found in possession of spurious equipment or inducts such equipment in the distribution system, Marketing Discipline Guidelines provide, inter-alia, for confiscation of equipment, imposition of fine and recovery at penal rates for the first and second offences and termination of distributorship in the event of a third offence.